

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Examiner is requiring restriction to one of the following groups:

Group I: Claims 1-5 and 9-10, drawn to methods for treating vascular hyperpermeable disease comprising administering a VAP-1 inhibitor wherein the Z groups recited in Claim 5 is 1H-benzoimidazol-2-amine; and

Group II: Claims 1-10, drawn to methods for treating vascular hyperpermeable disease comprising administering a VAP-1 inhibitor wherein the Z group recited in Claim 5 is a substituted phenyl.

The Examiner is also requiring election of a single species of diseases listed in Claim 4 and an election of a single disclosed species from Claims 5, 6 and 7.

Applicants hereby elect Group II, Claims 1-10 and additionally elect diabetic retinopathy from the disclosed species of diseases recited in Claim 4 and the compound N-{4-[2-(4-{[amino(imino)methyl]amino}phenyl)ethyl]-5-[4-(methylsulfonyl)benzyl]-1,3-thiazol-2-yl}acetamide from the disclosed species of compounds from Claims 5, 6 and 7.

Applicants traverse the requirement to elect a single disclosed disease from those listed in Claim 4 on the grounds that all of the Claim 4 diseases are characterized by increased vascular permeability and the present invention is directed to methods of treating such conditions.

Moreover, the MPEP at § 803 states as follows:

“If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without a serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on its merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions.”

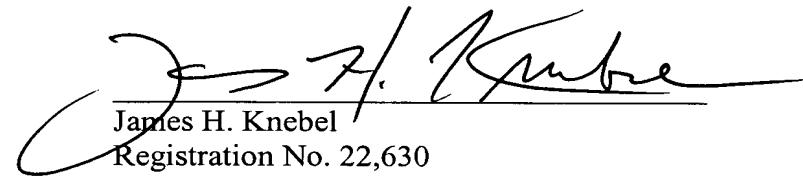
Applicants respectfully submit that a search of all of the claims would not impose a serious burden on the Office.

Accordingly, and for the reasons presented above, Applicants submit that the Office has failed to meet the burden necessary in order to sustain the Restriction Requirement. Withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested.

Applicants respectfully submit that the above-identified application is now in condition for examination on the merits, and early notice of such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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